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## UC MAKES APPOINTMENTS TO STEM CELL OVERSIGHT COMMISSION

The University of California today (Nov. 17) made its five appointments to the 29-member Independent Citizens Oversight Commission that will govern the stem cell research institute approved by California voters in the Nov. 2 election.

Under Proposition 71, the chancellors of the five UC campuses with a medical center are each to appoint an executive officer of his or her campus to the oversight commission (ICOC). In addition, Lt. Gov. Cruz Bustamante on Monday appointed UC Berkeley Chancellor Robert J. Birgeneau to the commission as one of the four other California university representatives to the commission.

"Stem cell research holds great possibilities for improving human health worldwide," said UC President Robert C. Dynes. "With the passage of Proposition 71, the University of California is looking forward to working with our partner institutions to help administer and conduct this important research. We hope to contribute to an effort in which funding is used in the most efficient, effective way possible to fund the very best scientific work."

The appointments made today are:

- UC Davis Chancellor Larry N. Vanderhoef appointed Claire Pomeroy, who recently was named vice chancellor for human health sciences and dean of the School of Medicine at UC Davis beginning Feb. 1, 2005. She currently is executive associate dean of the School of Medicine. Pomeroy is an expert in infectious diseases and a professor of microbiology and immunology. She came to UC Davis from the University of Kentucky College of Medicine, where she was associate dean for research and informatics, and professor and chief of infectious diseases. She received her M.D. degree from the University of Michigan and an M.B.A. from the University of Kentucky.

- UC Irvine Chancellor Ralph J. Cicerone appointed Susan V. Bryant, dean of the School of Biological Sciences and professor of developmental and cell biology at UC Irvine. Bryant's research focuses on understanding limb regeneration, or the molecular signals and switches needed to replace damaged, diseased or non-functioning parts of the body. She also is lead administrator of a National Science Foundation grant to increase the hiring of women faculty in the sciences and engineering at UC Irvine. She holds a Ph.D. from the University of London.

- UCLA Chancellor Albert Carnesale appointed Gerald S. Levey, vice chancellor of medical sciences and dean of the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. Levey is

an internist and endocrinologist widely known for his research on the thyroid gland and the heart. He came in 1994 to UCLA, where he oversees a diverse medical enterprise including the School of Medicine, UCLA Medical Center and UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute and Hospital. He previously was senior vice president for medical and scientific affairs at Merck & Co., a leading pharmaceutical company, and chair of the department of medicine at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine.

- UC San Diego Chancellor Marye Anne Fox appointed Edward W. Holmes, vice chancellor for health sciences and dean of the School of Medicine at UC San Diego. As vice chancellor, Holmes also oversees the Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences and the UCSD Healthcare system. Holmes came to UCSD in 2000 after serving as dean of the medical school at Duke University, senior associate dean for research at Stanford University and chair of the department of medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. He was previously a Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator and is a recognized expert in molecular medicine. He also has been a national leader in developing innovative programs for training physician scientists. Holmes holds an M.D. degree from the University of Pennsylvania.

- UC San Francisco Chancellor J. Michael Bishop appointed David A. Kessler, dean of the School of Medicine and vice chancellor for medical affairs at UCSF. Kessler previously served as dean of the Yale University School of Medicine and as commissioner of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration from 1990 to 1997. As FDA commissioner, Kessler acted to speed approval of new drugs, placed high priority on getting promising therapies for serious diseases to patients as quickly as possible and introduced new programs regulating the marketing and sale of tobacco products to children, among other initiatives. Kessler is a professor of pediatrics who earned his M.D. degree at Harvard University and a law degree from the University of Chicago.

The terms for those appointed to the Independent Citizens Oversight Commission by the UC chancellors are eight years. The terms for Birgeneau and the three other California university representatives appointed to the commission by state constitutional officers are six years.

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